

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable
5 baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton
carrier comprising:

a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical
interior wall defining an interior chamber; and

an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the
10 baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton
carrier to a belt.

2. The baton carrier of claim 1, further
comprising a detent mechanism interposed between the
15 attachment assembly and the baton holder.

3. The baton carrier of claim 2, wherein the
detent mechanism comprises a radially arranged plurality
of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially
20 arranged protuberances, such that substantial engagement
of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a
predetermined number of operating positions for the
attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder.

4. The baton carrier of claim 3, wherein the
25 radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is
integrally formed in a back cover assembly attached to
the baton holder, and wherein the back cover assembly
includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally
30 disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent
recesses.

5. The baton carrier of claim 4, wherein the
plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the

attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the back cover assembly accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

6. The baton carrier of claim 5, further including a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with the back cover assembly.

7. The baton carrier of claim 6, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and back cover assembly in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

8. The baton carrier of claim 4, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to the baton holder, at least in part, through a tab and slot mechanism, with the tab integrally formed in the back cover assembly and the slot integrally formed in the baton holder.

9. The baton carrier of claim 8, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to a rectangular extension portion of the baton holder, integrally formed therein.

10. The baton carrier of claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of detent recesses is substantially

trapezoidal in cross-section, with opposing non-parallel sides defining entry angles into the detent recess of between 25 and 45 degrees.

5 11. The baton carrier of claim 4, wherein the entry angles are 35 degrees.

10 12. The baton carrier of claim 9, wherein the substantially cylindrical interior wall includes an elongated opening therein, the opening approximately centrally disposed within the rectangular extension portion of the baton holder.

15 13. The baton carrier of claim 12, further comprising a baton securing element extending into the elongated opening.

20 14. The baton carrier of claim 12, wherein the baton securing element is a spring member having a portion thereof extending into said elongated opening, with at least a part of the spring member retained in position between the back cover assembly and the rectangular extension portion of the baton holder.

25 15. The baton carrier of claim 1, wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion having an insert that is adjustable in position to accommodate different belt widths.

30 16. The baton carrier of claim 15, wherein the loop portion includes at least one elongated slot, and wherein at least one screw extends through the slot and into the insert, such that the insert is fixed in position when

the screw is tightened, and the insert is movable when the screw is loosened.

17. The baton carrier of claim 16, wherein the insert includes an inner surface, proximate the belt, and the inner surface includes a substantially arcuate region adapted to engage an interior portion of the belt.

18. The baton carrier of claim 3, wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a fairing, the fairing integrally formed in and extending outwardly from the baton holder, and wherein the fairing includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses.

19. The baton carrier of claim 18, wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the fairing accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

20. The baton carrier of claim 19, further including a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with an interior wall of the fairing.

21. The baton carrier of claim 20, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially

disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and baton holder in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

22. The baton carrier of claim 21, wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion adapted to accept one of a plurality of inserts of varying sizes to accommodate different belt widths.

23. The baton carrier of claim 22, wherein a selected one of the plurality of inserts is removably secured in position by a mating tab and slot arrangement.

24. The baton carrier of claim 23, wherein at least one slot is provided in the loop portion of the attachment assembly, and the selected insert includes at least one tab, generally triangular in configuration, extending outwardly therefrom.

25. The baton carrier of claim 24, wherein the generally triangular tab makes an acute angle with an outer surface of the insert at a first departure end, and makes a right angle with an outer surface of the insert at a second departure end.

26. The baton carrier of claim 25, wherein the insert includes an inner surface, proximate the belt, and the inner surface includes a substantially arcuate region adapted to engage an interior portion of the belt.

27, The baton carrier of claim 26, wherein the first departure end of the tab is distal from the inner surface of the insert, while the second departure end is proximate the inner surface, such that the insert is moved away from the belt, within the loop portion, to engage the insert and secure the insert in position.

28. A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising:

a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber;

an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt; and

a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder, wherein the detent mechanism comprises a radially arranged plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances, such that substantial engagement of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder.

29. The baton carrier of claim 28, wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a back cover assembly attached to the baton holder, and wherein the back cover assembly includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses.

30. The baton carrier of claim 29, wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the

attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the back cover assembly accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

31. The baton carrier of claim 30, further including a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with the back cover assembly.

32. The baton carrier of claim 31, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and back cover assembly in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

33. The baton carrier of claim 29, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to the baton holder, at least in part, through a tab and slot mechanism, with the tab integrally formed in the back cover assembly and the slot integrally formed in the baton holder.

34. The baton carrier of claim 28, wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a fairing, the fairing integrally formed in and extending outwardly from the baton holder, and wherein the fairing includes an opening therethrough,

the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses.

35. The baton carrier of claim 34, wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the fairing accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

36. The baton carrier of claim 35, further including a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with an interior wall of the fairing.

37. The baton carrier of claim 36, further comprising a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and baton holder in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

38. The baton carrier of claim 37, wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion adapted to accept one of a plurality of inserts of varying sizes to accommodate different belt widths.

39. A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising:

a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber;

an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt; and

a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder, the detent mechanism including:

a radially arranged plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances, such that substantial engagement of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect to the baton holder;

wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a back cover assembly attached to the baton holder, and wherein the back cover assembly includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses; and

wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the back cover assembly accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into facing engagement.

40. The baton carrier of claim 39, further comprising:

a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with the back cover assembly; and

a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and back cover assembly in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing engagement of the detents and protuberances.

41. The baton carrier of claim 39, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to the baton holder, at least in part, through a tab and slot mechanism, with the tab integrally formed in the back cover assembly and the slot integrally formed in the baton holder.

42. The baton carrier of claim 41, wherein the back cover assembly attaches to a rectangular extension portion of the baton holder, integrally formed therein.

43. A baton carrier adapted to hold an expandable baton in both extended and retracted positions, the baton carrier comprising:

a baton holder having a substantially cylindrical interior wall defining an interior chamber;

an attachment assembly rotatably coupled to the baton holder, and adapted to removably attach the baton carrier to a belt; and

a detent mechanism interposed between the attachment assembly and the baton holder, the detent mechanism including:

5 a radially arranged plurality of detent recesses facing a plurality of similar radially arranged protuberances, such that substantial engagement of the recesses with the protuberances defines one of a predetermined number of operating positions for the attachment assembly with respect
10 to the baton holder;

wherein the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses is integrally formed in a fairing, the fairing integrally formed in and extending outwardly from the baton holder, and wherein the
15 fairing includes an opening therethrough, the opening centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of detent recesses; and

wherein the plurality of protuberances is integrally formed in the attachment assembly, and
20 wherein the attachment assembly includes a post centrally disposed within the radially arranged plurality of protuberances, such that the opening in the fairing accommodates the post in the attachment assembly to bring the detents and protuberances into
25 facing engagement.

44. The baton carrier of claim 43, further comprising:

30 a spring washer having a central opening through which the post extends, the spring washer in contact with an interior wall of the fairing; and

a fastener having an opening therethrough, with a plurality of engagement tabs circumferentially disposed about, and extending into, said opening, the fastener

applied to the post and in contact with the spring washer, fixing the attachment assembly and baton holder in rotational engagement, such that the spring washer provides a bias that tends to maintain the facing
5 engagement of the detents and protuberances.

45. The baton carrier of claim 43, wherein the attachment assembly includes a loop portion through which a belt passes, the loop portion adapted to accept one of
10 a plurality of inserts of varying sizes to accommodate different belt widths.

46. The baton carrier of claim 45, wherein a selected one of the plurality of inserts is removably
15 secured in position by a mating tab and slot arrangement.